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## Cheers & Jeers

by *Bruce Fretts*

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### *The Tonight Show: A Star is Born*

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**CHEERS** to [Conan O'Brien](#) for creating a star out of the wreckage of *The Tonight Show*. The lame-duck host has wrung plenty of laughs out of the network's late-night debacle, but none bigger than those delivered by one of his writers, [Deon Cole](#). The stand-up comic has scored with a trio of commentaries, sharing his theories that Conan is a being treated like a "ho" ("Do you work at night?... Is your job making people happy before they go to sleep? ... Has [Charlie Sheen](#) ever been on your couch?"), a "pimp" (Do you have a crew of people who are loyal to you and would do anything?"...Has [Paris Hilton](#) ever been on your couch?") and a "black man" ("Are people outside rallying in the cold rain on Martin Luther King Day on your behalf?"). Conan joked that NBC's new "More Colorful" slogan would be more accurate than ever because they were getting rid of the whitest guy alive, but NBC would be smart to back it up by snapping up the uproarious Cole for his own talk show. Now if they could only find him a time slot...